(c) In the earlier judgement of 1980, the Supreme Cout has laid down that routine handcuffing of undertrial prisoners is violative of articles 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution. The nature of offence or accusation should not be regarded as a criteria to determine the handcuffling of prisoners. It is only in exceptional circumstances where there is no other reasonable way of preventing the escape of the prisoner that recourse to handcuffing him may be taken. Even in such extreme cases, where handcuffs have to be put on, escorting authority must record contemporaneously the reasons for doing so. These recorded reasons must be shown to the Presiding Judge and his approval should be taken. Once the Court directs that the handcuffs are not to be used, no escorting authority should overrule this direction. Armed escorts and extra guards can take care of exceptional needs. The Supreme Court felt that it was desirable that the custodial authority should inform the Court of the circumstances in which handcuffling has been resorted to and the justification thereof.

Mobilisation of resources

3521. KUMARI SAYEED KHATUN:
SMT. VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's reaction to Planning Commissions suggestion for higher share of direct taxes to mobilise resources for the Eighth Plan; and

(b) what is Government reaction to Planning Commission's sukgestion for reduction in effective interest rates on Government borrowings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) The suggestions are being considered by the Planning Commission as part of the eighth Plan exercises. These will be taken into account by Government in formulating its policies, during the eighth Plan.

Setting up of a currency paper or currency press mill in Vadodara

3522. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a proposal to set up currency paper or currency press mill in Vadodara in Gujarat:

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Public Investments Board has sanctioned the amount to set up Currency Paper or Currency Press Mill; and

(c) whether any action has been taken to set up currency paper or currency press mill in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) There was a proposal in 1974 for setting up New Security Paper Mill near Vadodara in order to supplement the indigenous production of the Security Paper. After examining various factors involved, it was felt more desirable to modernise the existing Security Paper Mill at Hoshangabad rather establish a New Mill. Accordingly, the Security Paper Mill at Hoshangabad was modernised in 1983 raising its production capacity.

Arrest under the narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances Act

3523. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of the total arrests made in the country (arrests of foreigners to be shown separately) ended up in conviction under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act since its enactment;

(b) what are the reasons for the low conviction rate under the above Act; and

(c) what according to the analysis, if any, are the shortcomings in the Act/ prooess of investigations or deficiencies in the law enforcing machinery resulting in low conviction rate under the above Act stating the manner in which Government propose to remedy the situation?